

IDAHO NEWS RELEASE



IDAHO
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE
P.O. Box 1699
Boise, ID 83701
1-208-334-1507
FAX: (208) 334-1114
www.nass.usda.gov/id

Released: August 15, 2003

July Farm Labor

For the Mountain I Region of the U.S. (Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming), there were 31,000 hired workers on farms and ranches the week of July 6-12, 2003, up 3 percent from the 30,000 workers the week of July 7-13, 2002. According to the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service, hired workers worked an average of 46.7 hours during the survey week at an average wage of \$7.63 per hour, up 1 cent from last year.

There were 1,273,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of July 6-12, 2003, up 1 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 953,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 320,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$8.88 per hour during the July 2003 reference week, up 31 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.18 per hour, up 28 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$8.62 per hour compared with \$8.38 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.28 per hour, was up 26 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 40.0 hours for hired workers during the survey week, unchanged from a year ago.

For More Information Call: (208) 334-1507.